

## **We Can't Wait: After Nearly 300 Days of Republican Inaction on Jobs, Democrats Continue to Urge House GOP to Take Action to Help Put Americans Back to Work**

It's been nearly 300 days since House Republicans took the majority, and they still do not have a comprehensive jobs plan and have taken little action to address Americans' top priorities: creating jobs and growing our economy.

Democrats, on the other hand, do have a jobs plan: the Make It In America plan aims to create jobs by creating an environment for businesses to innovate and make products in the U.S., and the American Jobs Act is based on bipartisan ideas to help small businesses grow, get teachers, first responders, and construction workers back to work, and put more money back in Americans' pockets.

Republicans refuse to take action on Democratic proposals that will put Americans back to work immediately:

Earlier this month, Senate Republicans blocked consideration of the American Jobs Act, which is based on bipartisan proposals, is fully paid for and could create up to two million jobs according to independent economists.

Last week, Senate Republicans also blocked consideration of a bill that would keep thousands of teachers and first responders on the job in communities across the country and was paid for by asking the wealthiest to pay their fair share.

But there are bipartisan proposals we can take action on now that will create jobs and boost our economy:

**Rebuild America Jobs Act:** In the coming weeks, the Senate will consider a bill that will invest \$50 billion in our nation's surface transportation infrastructure and \$10 billion to create a National Infrastructure Bank, which is based on the bipartisan model Senators John Kerry and Kay Bailey Hutchison introduced. These investments are supported by everyone from business to labor:

A recent AP-Gfk poll shows 67 percent of Americans support modernizing our schools, bridges and roads. [10/23/11]

And this past Sunday, U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Tom Donohue voiced his support for rebuilding our infrastructure: *"Well, first, we're in agreement of the need to bring along a major improvement in our infrastructure. Second, we understand that a lot of jobs can be created in the transportation and the energy side and the aviation and the water side."* [ABC This Week, 10/23/11]

**Currency Manipulation Bill:** Democrats are also urging House Republicans to bring a currency manipulation bill to the Floor for a vote. The bill, which passed the Senate with bipartisan support this month, will hold countries accountable for manipulating their currency and ensure our businesses are competing on a level playing field. There's no reason why we shouldn't take up this bill – the House bill has 230 co-sponsors, including 62 House Republicans, and it passed the House last year with 348 votes, including 99 House Republicans.

As President Obama said yesterday, we can't wait. It's time for Republicans to put country before party, and take action on these bills to help put more Americans back to work, grow our economy and help ensure more middle class families can succeed.

*Office of Democratic Whip Steny H. Hoyer, 10/25/11*